

President Johnson—Portents on Policy

By Dom Bonafede
of the New York Times Staff

WASHINGTON

Assurances of executive and legislative support given yesterday to President Lyndon B. Johnson carried a portent that the basic policies of the Kennedy administration would be continued.

He announced he would address a joint session of Congress Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. It is expected he will then review policy matters affecting the welfare and security of the nation.

Mr. Johnson, stoically shouldering the grief caused by the loss of President John F. Kennedy, spent an exhausting day, his first full day as the 36th President.

A REQUEST

He issued his first formal address to the country as Chief Executive, proclaiming Monday a day of mourning for President Kennedy.

He met with the decision-making family of the government, including bipartisan Congressional leaders, military chiefs and cabinet members.

He requested all U. S. ambassadors and other high-ranking diplomats to remain on the job and not submit their resignations—the usual custom when there is a change in Presidents.

He sought the counsel of two former Presidents, Gen. Eisenhower and Harry Tru-

man. He conferred at once with Attorney General Robert Kennedy.

Accompanied by McGee Bandy, White House national security assistant, he went to the "situation room" for an intelligence briefing by CIA Director John McCone.

The room is located in the basement and is equipped to keep the Chief Executive informed of events and crises in any part of the world.

President Johnson then walked in a heavy drizzle across the street to his offices on the second floor of the antiquated Executive Office Building. Grim lines etched his face. He wore no topcoat or hat.

Press secretary Pierre Salinger later reported that the President talked at length there with Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, as well as bipartisan Congressional leaders.

Accompanied by Mrs. Johnson, he returned to the White House to view the casket of the late President. Both dressed in black, they stood solemnly beside the bier with bowed heads.

Uniformed servicemen from the four services stood at attention, their bayonets reflecting the light of candles at each corner of the casket.

Afterward, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson paid a call on Mrs. Kennedy in the residential quarters.

At about 11:30 a.m. Gen. Eisenhower arrived by limousine and was met by President Johnson. The two went to the West Room and met

service. About 100 other people were there.

The Rev. John C. Harper, rector of St. John's, led the prayers.

"We give thanks for all those who laid down their life in the service of our country and especially for thy servant John," the rector intoned.

"O God," he continued, "bless thy servant Lyndon and all others in authority so they may do Thy will." He then asked for divine guidance for the nation and blessings on the land. . . . "Save us from violence, discord and confusion. Grant to the President of the United States and all in authority wisdom and strength to do Thy will."

Father Harper afterward escorted the Johnsons to their car. The service was arranged at the request of the President, he said. Mrs. Johnson is an Episcopalian but he did not know the President's faith. Who's Who lists him as a member of the Christian Church.

MEETS CABINET

At 2:30 p. m. President Johnson went to the White House Cabinet Room, where he asked the members for their support and requested that they stay on as part of his Administration.

Responding on behalf of the full Cabinet, UN Ambassador Adlai Stevenson and Secretary of State Rusk pledged their co-operation. They said the Cabinet was

Director Kermit Gordon; William Moyers, deputy director of the Peace Corps and an associate of President Johnson's; George Reedy, his aid, and Mr. Salinger.

The mourning proclamation for President Kennedy was made in a television address. He spoke in a low tone, his voice momentarily appearing to falter.

ON THE AIR

Said President Johnson:

"He said it himself, 'the energy, the faith, the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it, and the glow from that fire can truly light the world.'"

"Now, therefore, I, Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America, do appoint Monday next, Nov. 25, the day of the funeral service of President Kennedy, to be a national day of mourning throughout the United States.

"I earnestly recommend the people to assemble on that day in their respective places of divine worship, there to bow down in submission to the will of Almighty God, and to pay their homage of love and reverence to the memory of a great and good man. I invite the people of the world who share our grief to join us in this day of mourning and rededication."

TRUMAN THERE

Visitors with President



Herald Tribune photo by IKA HONKINGBERG
The focal point of the world's attention yesterday was the White House, and in the early morning hours it was hushed and the fountain splashed undisturbed in the damp gloom. The flag, set at half staff, hung limply while a President's body lay in state in the East Room beneath.

flew in late in the afternoon. He said he was "shocked and hurt" at the assassination

try to tell the President what to do. Too many of you (newsmen) tried to do that

FROM OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT, BRIEFING FOR PRESS BY PIERRE SALINGER
NOVEMBER 23, 1963, 12:30 P.M.:

(Mr. Salinger first explained that President Johnson arrived at his temporary office in the EOB at 9 a.m. and conferred briefly with Robert Kennedy.)

Mr. Salinger: "He then went with Mr. Bundy to the White House Situation Room where Mr. McCone gave him an intelligence briefing. He then returned to his office at the Executive Office Building where he will work for the remainder of the day."

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20 August 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

The Director, at lunch today, saw Tom Ross, CHICAGO SUN TIMES, and David Wise, NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, who are writing a book covering the subject of United States intelligence to be published by Random House next spring. At the luncheon with the DCI and the two newspapermen was Colonel Grogan. The conference continued in the Director's private dining room until 1410 hours.

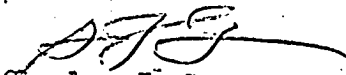
The Director, at the outset, said he thought that any articles or books about intelligence were undesirable from the viewpoint of an intelligence officer. They said that on the Hill they had heard much talk of a Watch-Dog Committee for the CIA. The Director went into some detail in explaining how the few people on such committees who receive all the information are reluctant to share their knowledge with other members of the Congress not on these special committees. He told of experiences with the Atomic Energy Commission Joint Committee which did not pass on information to the Foreign Relations Committee. He explained in answer to a question that there are three committees now known as CIA subcommittees, and the reason there isn't a fourth is because members of the Senate CIA Subcommittee are also members of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate. The membership of the CIA subcommittees is not public, he said.

Mr. McCone thought the present relationship with the Congress is quite satisfactory as is the relationship of the CIA with the State Department, Defense Department, and White House, our principal customers. He explained his duties as Director of Central Intelligence under the law and under the President's directive of 16 January 1962. He explained the functioning of the USIB and of the Board of National Estimates and the relationships between DIA and CIA. He went into some detail into the functioning of the estimators on the Board, how they are staffed by the DDI, how USIB passes on what estimates are to be made and the priority, and on the Director's own responsibility for the final product.

There was some discussion of public relations and the desire of CIA for anonymity. At the conclusion, Mr. McCone said he might later see them again if they so wished and perhaps go more into the structure of CIA and the changes he has made. He suggested that maybe they would like to submit their copy when they have finished. They said they would have to think that over. He asked them to discuss it with me.

They did. They are reluctant but will think it over. I pointed out that it would be helpful to them. We might discover errors. We might point out some violations of national security; and having done that without attribution, the final decision would be theirs as to whether they accept or don't accept our suggestions.

They said they are very anxious to come back again after they do some writing and have another session with the Director. They asked if they might interview General Carter, Mr. Helms, and Mr. Kirkpatrick. I told them that since the Director had seen them, no one else in the Agency would be made available. They said this was quite satisfactory.


Stanley J. Grogan
Assistant to the Director

63-6541

20 August 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: The DCI

1. At the meeting with Tom Ross and David Wise today, recommend:

Since the DCI is seeing them, no other employees of CIA will be made available for interviews.

There is no feud between DIA and CIA. Differences of opinion which arise from time to time, as they will between people working in the same office, are normally resolved without reference to the top echelon of the DOD or the CIA, or by decision of the DCI, acting as principal officer to the President on intelligence matters. If the DCI should not concur, he can refer the matter to the Secretary of Defense for resolution on that level. Up to now, no occasion has arisen for such resolution.

The DCI and the Secretary of Defense have worked out a number of joint efforts and cooperative arrangements to avoid overlapping activities. It is a normal function of the DCI to coordinate the intelligence activities of the whole community.

2. Regarding the Bay of Pigs and the October incident, recommend the Director stress that CIA has at no time discussed with the Press the subject of Cuba and that policy continues.

Recommend the Director relate some of the things he has done to strengthen the structure of the Agency, particularly the enlargement of the scientific areas, first with the establishment of NSR which now becomes the DD Science and Technology with expanded duties that can't be named in the field of scientific intelligence, the realignment of the Office of the Comptroller, the bringing of the General Counsel directly under the DCI, the placing of the Board of National Estimates directly under the DCI with staffing by the DCI and the giving of new responsibilities to the Board of National Estimates in the field of operations which they did not heretofore have. Recommend the Director also include the delegation of DCI authority to the D/DCI so that General Carter runs the day-to-day business of the Agency.

Also recommend the Director relate the establishment of the Office of Executive Director to command channels. He is the senior staff officer, charged with coordinating and harmonizing the staff work of the Agency. You may wish to refer to your having named a new DDP, DDI, DD Science and Technology, change by retirement in the Office of

the Director of Security.

3. I would suggest the Director also stress that the command channels are very clear. Number 1 is the DCI, number 2 is the Deputy Director. The next commanders are the Deputies. The Executive Director, who is not in the chain of command, becomes Acting Director when the DCI and the Deputy Director are both absent, because of his immediate availability and his knowledge of the policies and current situation within the Agency.

Stanley J. Grogan
Assistant to the Director

cc: D/DCI
Executive Director

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